प्रगति हो और उसके सहारे हमारी जो जरूरत की चीजें हैं, जो सहयोग का एक आधार है, वहां उनका उत्पादन कर, जो हम उनको कर्जे और दूसरी चीजें देते हैं उसके बदले में वे उन चीजों को हमें दे सकें। जिन चीजों की हमें जरूरत है जैसे कि आयल सीड्स और तिलहन की बात की गई है, वह हमको दे सकें। इसी तरीके से आयल तथा गैस का सहयोग है, मेमोरेन्डम आफ अंडरस्टेंडिंग दी गई है, इसके मामले में भी यही दृष्टिकोण रहा है।

Ganga Basin Conference

*447. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of industrial establishments had been invited to the Ganga Basin Conference held in Calcutta on the 28th November, 1985 but only 18 of them registered for participation; and

(b) if so, how Government propose to involve concerned industries more effectively in the project of cleaning of the Ganga.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Conference was organised by a Society known as the India Centre for Public Health and Environment.

(b) In the Ganga Action Plan, the focus is on control of pollution from the municipal wastes. In addition, separate steps are also proposed to deal with serious industrial pollution in specific locations. An Expert Group has been set up to review the position in consultation with the U.P., Bihar and West Bengal State Pollution Control Boards. The gross polluting industries have been identified. The manner in which pollution treatment is to be undertaken in these industries has also been indicated. Efforts are being made to obtain from each industry, a time-bound programme for setting up effluent treatment facilities.

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the statement it has been mentioned that the gross polluting industries have been identified. What has been the response of these identified industries and what is their number? It has been reported that although 85 of such industries were invited, only a handful turned up. Why is it that there has been such a poor response to the Government's call to come forward and help them in cleanig the Gaga?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, as I said, this conference was called by a private society and they have invited many industries. Out of these industries, as per the information from the Society itself, only 18 industrial units participated. As far as our job in the Ganga Action Plan is concerned, a group, an expert group has been formed to identify those industrial units which are highly pollutant as far as the Ganges is concerned. Sixty-eight such industrial units have been identified and action has been taken against them. Notices have been issued to them to submit detailed project reports by the end of this month, by the end of December. In regard to those units who do not submit the detailed project reports, action will be taken. We shall ask them to submit detailed project reports for treating the effluents which they throw into the Ganges. This is the action which has been taken from our side.

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Sir, it has been brought to our notice

*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Usha Malhotra.

that Dr. Nilay Chaudhuri, Chairman of the Central Pollution Control Board and President of the Indian Centre for Public Health and Environment, told the 'Business Standard' that his efforts to make the industries take an active role in the conference had failed. Now, this refers to the Board which has been set up by the Government and there is no reference to the private effort or to the Socity which is making an effort to come to the assistance of the Government. I would like the Government to clarify this. Is the Government contemplating taking effective measures in making these identified industries implement pollution control measures which have been set forth by the Government?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: It is true that out of the 68 industrial units which have been identified as discharging highly polluted effluents in the Ganges only 12 such industrial units participated in that Conference. Total 18 they have indicated and they have sent the names of only 15. The remaining three industrial establishments are in some other States and they are not throwing their effluents in the Ganges.

Sir, as I have said, this is an effort made by a private society. Of course the president of the society happens to be the Chairman of the Central Pollution Control Board, but this is a purely private society which has organised this seminar. The Government has nothing to do with that society or with the proceedings of that seminar. It is a society of scientists. They invited industrialists, scientists, university scholars and other concerned people to throw their ideas regarding treatment of the Ganges water and making it pollution free.

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was told that there were two other meetings called at Delhi. Out of the 68 units only four attended the first meeting and non-attended the second meeting. This only indicates that the industrialists are not willing to cooperate. I would, therefore like to know the following things.

Will the Government give some sort of technical support to them to prepare economic feasibility project report so that the cleaning of this waste can be done more effectively?

Secondly, will the Government give them some incentives to enable them to accept these anti-pollution measures?

Lastly, the pollution of the river waters by industrialists is more toxic and more harmful than the bio-pollutants or the sewage pollutants. Therefore, this matter is of great importance and significance.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: I am not aware of the other meetings. We are only aware of the conference which has been organised by a private society. I do not know about the other meetings and the response of the industrialists to those meetings.

Regarding techincal support, the first thing was to identify the industries and to form a view of the sort of action to be taken to treat the effluents. Those steps have been formulated and sent to them and as soon as we receive the project reports from these 68 industrial units, we shall certainly look into them. We shall also give all possible technical assistance to them to treat the effluents and then throw them into the Ganges.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Sir, the Ganga Action Plan which was started with much fanfare seems to be a distant dream. There are about 150 industries in the Ganga Basin but the pollution caused by the industries is only 25 per cent, the municipal waste account for 75 per cent. Now I understand that the Government is taking up this project in a phased manner. There are 29 municipal cities classified as class-I 28 as class-II and 68 as class-III cities. Cities above one

lakh population are classified as Class-I cities, between 50,000 and one lakh as Class-II cities and below 50,000 as Class-III cities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question relates to the Ganga pollution and not municipal pollution.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: The major share is from municipal cities.

That is why I am putting this question. Now the Government is taking up the project only in Class-I cities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, the Minister will not be able to answer this because he has come prepared with an answer regarding the Ganga pollution. If you go on talking about municipalities and all that, how will he answer?

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: The pollution is only from municipalities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not about pollution. The question is about Ganga pollution.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Ganga pollution is done only by the municipalities; 75 per cent of it is by municipalities. That is why this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Put your question, please.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Now I am putting it. If the plan is initiated only in Class-I cities, by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan, 28 other cities which are now classified as Class-II...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question not allowed. Please sit down. Shri Jagesh Desai.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Sir, the experience regarding pollution control is not encouraging. I feel it is high time we should take vigorous, punitive action so that this menace can be controlled. There was a study made by the UNO regarding taxing industries which discharge effluents and pollutant chemicals in the river beds in the book entitled "Taxation and Development". This suggestion was given in that study. I would like to know whether Government will consider levying some kind of a cess or tax on the quantum of pollutant effluent discharged in the river bed, or the chemicals used which cause pollution. There are also chemicals which can be used without causing pollution. Whether Government will give some incentive to these industries.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, I could not follow the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will tell you The question is whether Government will give any incentive to those people who do not pollute, to those industries which do not pollute.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: And tax the others.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: As far as we are concerned, we are thinking of giving all assistance to those industries which want to treat their effluents and throw them in the Ganga.

कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि गंगा नदी की सफाई की योजना जो पर्यावरण विभाग ने बनाई है उसमें किन-किन स्थानों पर सफाई का काम पहले लिया जायेगा और कहा-कहा बाद में। मेरा मतलब है कि गंगा नदी में किन-किन स्थानों पर प्रदूषण सबसे अधिक है, और क्या उन्हीं स्थानों पर पहले सफाई की जायेगी।

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, the answer is quite...

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: ... obvious.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI:...yes, obvious. Certainly, Sir, whenever we will start the work, the first step will be to remove pollution from those areas where the pollution is more and not to take up those places where the pollution is less.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Poddar.

कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे : कहां-कहां वह पलत्युशन है मंत्री जी बतायेंगे ?

DR. R. K. PODDAR: Sir, there have been reports in the developed countries in the past that sometimes the industries which produce pollution sponsored research projects in universities and research institutes and thereby slanted reports in favour of the industries were produced. I would like to ask the Minister whether the Government is aware of this phenomenon and will try to avoid these things in our country so that not too direct and too intimate connection between the pollution producing industries and the research institutes and universities/departments is established.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, as far as we are concerned, we have our own scientists and the Central Ganga Authority has appointed an Expert Group and it was that Group which had identified those industries which are more pollutant and they have also advised them as to what sort of steps should be taken to treat those affluents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir ... Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, there has been too much of pollution. Next question.

Campaign against setting up of nuclear power station at Kakrapar

*448. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:†

SHRI M. KADHARSHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attentoin has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Indian Express' of 14th October, 1985 under the caption "Gandhians stir against nuclear-unit in Surat" regarding a campaign launched by committeed Gandhians against the setting up of a nuclear power station at Kakrapar a tiny Adivasi hamlet in Surat district;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a), to (c) Two Sarvodaya Leaders of South Gujarat, have started a campaign against setting up of an Atomic Power Station at Kakrapar. The main demands of the campaigners really relate to (i) closure of all Atomic Power Stations in the country, including Kakrapar, pending finalisation of nuclear policy acceptable to all concerned, (ii) educating the public on implications of atomic energy, and (iii) danger to Kakrapar power station, its being in seismic zone No. 3. Officials of the Depart-

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Sudha Vijay Joshi.